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00862.023239.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
KAZUYA IMAFUKU, et al. )  
Application No.: 10/664,948 ) Group Art Unit: 2621  
Filed: September 22, 2003 )  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD )  
AND APPARATUS : June 15, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the documents (17) to (29) so listed is enclosed.

/QV/ (1) U.S. Patent No. 4,313,124  
/QV/ (2) U.S. Patent No. 4,345,262  
/QV/ (3) U.S. Patent No. 4,459,600  
/QV/ (4) U.S. Patent No. 4,463,359  
/QV/ (5) U.S. Patent No. 4,558,333  
/QV/ (6) U.S. Patent No. 4,608,577  
/QV/ (7) U.S. Patent No. 4,723,129  
/QV/ (8) U.S. Patent No. 4,740,796  
/QV/ (9) U.S. Patent No. 5,201,013  
/QV/ (10) U.S. Patent No. 5,315,669  
/QV/ (11) U.S. Patent No. 5,438,634  
/QV/ (12) U.S. Patent No. 5,949,965  
/QV/ (13) U.S. Patent No. 5,973,803  
/QV/ (14) U.S. Patent No. 6,363,172  
/QV/ (15) U.S. Publication No. 2002-0063898  
/QV/ (16) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0067617  
/QV/ (17) GB 2 352 353  
/QV/ (18) JP 54-56847  
/QV/ (19) JP 59-123670  
/QV/ (20) JP 59-138461

/QV/(21) JP 60-71260  
/QV/ (22) JP 8-279920  
/QV/ (23) JP 8-307669  
/QV/ (24) JP 8-307680  
/QV/ (25) JP 9-139841  
/QV/ /QV/(26) JP 2729278  
/QV/ (27) JP 11-10918  
/QV/ (28) 2000-354172  
/QV/ (29) Robert W. Floyd and Louis Steinberg,  
"An Adaptive Algorithm for Spatial Greyscale,"  
Proceeding of the SID, Vol. 17/2 Second Quarter,  
75-77 (1976).

Document number (29) was cited in the specification at page 1, document numbers (22) and (27) were cited in the specification at page 2, document number (25) was cited in the specification at page 3, document (28) was cited in the specification at page 4, document numbers (23), (24) and (26) were cited in the specification at page 6, document numbers (7) and (8) were cited in the specification at page 73, document numbers (1) to (5) and (19) were cited in the specification at page 74, document number (20) was cited in the specification at page 75, and document numbers (18) and (21) were cited in the specification at page 77. These documents are believed to be pertinent for the reasons noted in the specification.

English-language abstracts are enclosed for the Japanese documents (18) to (25), (27) and (28). In this regard, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,201,013, 5,315,669 and 5,438,634 are believed to be English-language equivalents of Japan 2729278, U.S. Patent No. 4,608,577 is believed to be the English-language equivalent of Japan 60-71260, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,973,803 and 6,363,172 are believed to be English-language equivalents of Japan 8-279920, and U.S. Patent No. 5,949,965 is believed to be an English-language equivalent of Japan 11-10918.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 39,000

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3800  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) JUN 16 2004			ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>00862.023239.</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/664,948</b>	
			APPLICANT <b>KAZUYA IMAFUKU, et al.</b>			
			FILING DATE <b>September 22, 2003</b>		GROUP <b>2621</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
				346	140	
/QV/	4,313,124	1/26/82	Hara	346	140	
/QV/	4,345,262	8/17/82	Shirato, et al.	346	140	
/QV/	4,459,600	7/10/84	Sato, et al.	346	140	
/QV/	4,463,359	7/31/84	Ayata, et al.	346	1.1	
/QV/	4,558,333	12/10/85	Sugitani, et al.	346	140	
/QV/	4,608,577	8/26/86	Hori	346	140	
/QV/	4,723,129	2/2/88	Endo, et al.	346	1.1	
/QV/	4,740,796	4/26/88	Endo, et al.	346	1.1	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
/QV/	2 352 353	1/24/01	United Kingdom			
/QV/	54-56847	5/8/79	Japan			Abstract
/QV/	59-123670	7/17/84	Japan			Abstract
/QV/	59-138461	8/8/84	Japan			Abstract
/QV/	60-71260	4/23/85	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
/QV/	Robert W. Floyd and Louis Steinberg, "An Adaptive Algorithm for Spatial Greyscale," Proceeding of the SID, Vol. 17/2 Second Quarter, 75-77 (1976).					
EXAMINER	/Quang Vo/		DATE CONSIDERED	05/09/2007		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 2

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>00862.023329</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/664,948</b>		
			APPLICANT <b>KAZUYA IMAFUKU, et al.</b>				
			FILING DATE <b>September 22, 2003</b>		GROUP <b>2621</b>		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
/QV/	5,201,013	4/6/93	Kumagai		382	50	
/QV/	5,315,669	5/24/94	Kumagai		382	50	
/QV/	5,438,634	8/1/95	Kumagai		382	169	
/QV/	5,949,965	9/7/99	Gondek		395	109	
/QV/	5,973,803	10/26/99	Cheung, et al.		358	534	
/QV/	6,363,172	3/26/02	Cheung, et al.		382	167	
/QV/	2002-0063898	5/30/02	Goto, et al.		358	3.01	
/QV/	2003-0067617	4/10/03	Kato, et al.		358	1.9	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
/QV/	8-279920	10/22/96	Japan				Abstract
/QV/	8-307669	11/22/96	Japan				Abstract
/QV/	8-307680	11/22/96	Japan				Abstract
/QV/	9-139841	05/27/97	Japan				Abstract
/QV/	2729278	12/19/97	Japan				
/QV/	11-10918	01/19/1999	Japan				Abstract
/QV/	2000-354172	12/19/00	Japan				Abstract
<b>OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
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